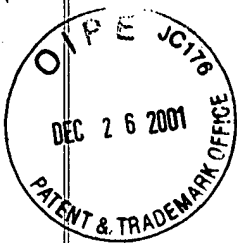


3727

#3



# PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :

*Mark B. Littlejohn et al.* : Examiner: UNKNOWN

U.S. Serial No. 09/978,484 : Group Art Unit: 3727

Filed October 17, 2001 :

Docket No. 2312 (FJ-00-39) :

For: DEEP DISH DISPOSABLE CONTAINER :  
-----

TECHNOLOGICAL CENTER  
 DEC 29 2001

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Box DD  
 Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications, and other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material, as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b), to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a). While information referred to in this Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(h), constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability of this invention. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information exists.

- (a) This information Disclosure Statement is filed within the period set forth in §1.97(b) because it accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith, is filed within three months of the filing date of a national application or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application. Or is believed to be filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. However, in the event that the first office action has been mailed, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) or credit any overpayment to Account No. 50-0935.
  
- This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), but is believed to be filed before the mailing date of a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.
  - (1) The undersigned attorney certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement;
  
  - (2) The undersigned attorney certifies that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned attorney after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; or


- (3) This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a transmittal letter in which payment of the fee set forth in §1.17(p) and required by 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (c) is authorized.

### **Patents**

1. U.S. Patent No. 4,606,496, issued August 19, 1986, entitled "Rigid Paperboard Container", of *R.P. Marx et al.*;
2. U.S. Patent No. 4,609,140, issued September 2, 1986, entitled "Rigid Paperboard Container and Method and Apparatus for Producing Same", of *G.J. Van Handel et al.*;
3. U.S. Patent No. 4,721,499, issued January 26, 1988, entitled "Method of Producing a Rigid Paperboard Container", of *R.P. Marx et al.*;
4. U.S. Patent No. 4,721,500, issued January 26, 1988, entitled "Method of Forming a Rigid Paper-Board Container", of *G.J. Van Handel et al.*;
5. U.S. Patent No. 4,781,566, issued November 1, 1988, entitled "Apparatus and Related Method for Aligning Irregular Blanks Relative to a Die Half", of *A.F. Rossi et al.*;
6. U.S. Patent No. 4,832,676, issued May 23, 1989, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Forming Paperboard Containers", of *A.D. Johns et al.*;
7. U.S. Patent No. 5,088,640, issued February 18, 1992, entitled "Rigid Four Radii Rim Paper Plate", of *M.B. Littlejohn*;
8. U.S. Patent No. 5,203,491, issued April 20, 1993, entitled "Bake-In Press-Formed Container", of *R.P. Marx et al.*;
9. U.S. Patent No. 5,249,946, issued October 5, 1993, entitled "Plate Forming Die Set", of *R.P. Marx*;

10. U.S. Patent No. 5,326,020, issued July 5, 1994, entitled "Rigid Paperboard Container", of *J.O. Cheshire et al.*; and
11. U.S. Patent No. 5,887,781, issued March 30, 1999, entitled "Hexagonal Paperboard Carton With Thermoformed Reinforcing Lid", of *R. Marx et al.*

Respectfully submitted,

  
Michael W. Ferrell  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 31,158

Ferrell & Ferrell L.L.P.  
90 Crystal Run Road, Suite 401  
Middletown, New York 10941  
Telephone: (703) 266-3000  
Facsimile: (703) 266-6000  
December 17, 2001

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL (37 CFR 1.8)**

Applicant(s): Mark B. Pittsjohn

Docket No.

2312 (FJ-00-39)

Serial No.

09/978,484 DEC 2 6 2001

Filing Date

October 17, 2001

Examiner

UNKNOWN

Group Art Unit

3727

Invention: **DEEP DISH DISPOSABLE CONTAINER**

I hereby certify that this **IDS, with references, PTO-1449 and return postcard**

*(Identify type of correspondence)*

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: The

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December / 7, 2001

*(Date)*

**Carol R. Maddaloni**

*(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)*



*(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)*

**Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.**